

THE "CONDER" TOKEN

COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE "CONDER" TOKEN COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Volume IV Number 2

June 15, 1999

Consecutive Issue #12

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THE HORNBURCH
HALFPENNY
Dr. Richard Doty

HYGEIA and the
BOTANIC GARDEN
David S. Brook



THE FABULOUS SAWBRIDGEWORTH PENNY
by JERRY & SHARON BOBBE



ESSEX 10 - St. III; Nice Sharp Unc	\$129
GLOUCESTERSHIRE 19 (Ottley reverse) - Nice Bronzed Proof, obv spot. Rare	\$129
HAMPSHIRE 42 - Nice AU	\$39
... 46 - VF	\$29
... 49 (Rusted Horse) - EF/AU	\$79
... 79a - VF/EF	\$25
KENT 18 - VF/EF, a touch edgy. Rare	\$39
... 31 - Nice Unc, 2 lt rev scratches	\$69
... 35 - Unc	\$39
LANCASHIRE 108 - VF/EF	\$15
... 114 (Mule) - VF/EF	\$39
... 150 (Mule) - Sharp Unc	\$79
MIDDLESEX 12 (Thin flan) - VF, scratches and a bit edgy	\$19
... 39 - St. II, with date; Unc	\$49
... 39 - St. III, date cud; Unc, lt HLL. (light hairlines)	\$49
... 44a - Gilt; AU	\$79
... 103 - Red & Toned Unc, lt HLL. Rare	\$129
... 104 - Toned Unc. Rare	\$129
... 142 (Buckled obverse) - Unc	\$149
... 147 - AU, harshly cleaned	\$39
... 153 - Toned Unc, lt rev stains	\$119
... 159 - Nice Sharp Toned P-L Unc, rev rim flaw as made	\$149
... 166 - EF, scarce type	\$79
... 168 - Nice R & B P-L Unc, lt obv scratch	\$149
... 223 - Brass; EF, stains	\$29
... 271 - Nice EF, usual hole	\$25
... 300 (Thin flan) - Nice Unc	\$59
... 336b - Sharp AU/Unc, small rim flan flaw as made	\$59
... 346 - St. II, obv breaks thus weak; Toned Unc	\$39

... 363 - AU	\$35
... 366 - Nice Unc, slight misalignment	\$79
... 467 - Choice R & B Unc, but for a few small rev marks	\$79
... 566 - Nice Sharp Unc	\$69
... 567 - Obv cud; Unc, bronzed, lt HLL.	\$39
... 631 - Nice P-L Unc, tiny clip	\$35
... 682c - Sharp AU/Unc, lt HLL.	\$45
... 682c - Sharp Unc, lt stains	\$65
... 686c - AU	\$59
... 690b - Nice Unc, museum #	\$99
... 690 Bis - Silvered; AU, rev rim nick below date. RR	\$99
... 693 - Nice Unc, small stain at bust	\$119
... 696 - Unc, bronzed	\$119
... 715 - Nice Sharp P-L Unc	\$119
... 716 - AU, bronzed, flan crack	\$49
... 718 - Unc	\$119
... 724 - P-L Unc, weak Bluecoat Boy, miniscule clip	\$69
... 724 - Nice P-L Unc, bronzed, slightly weak centers	\$99
... 731 - Nice Unc, minor stain	\$95
... 738 - VF/EF	\$29
... 744 - AU/Unc, bronzed	\$85
... 745 - St. VII; Choice P-L Unc, bronzed, cud scraped off by a moron.	\$59
... 763a - EF	\$39
... 781 - Nice Toned Unc, slightly off-center, small rev rim bump	\$149
... 790b - Faded Red EF/AU, weak	\$55
... 790b - Choice R & B Unc, weak	\$99
... 795a - Choice R & B Unc, weak	\$119
... 795b (Jumbo flan) - Sharp EF/AU	\$69
... 806 - AU, rev scratch	\$35
... 808b - Nice AU/Unc, bronzed, museum #	\$79
... 841 - Nice AU/Unc, a couple lt scratch-like flan flaws	\$79
... 842b (Usual rust) - Nice AU/Unc	\$59
... 843a - St. III; Nice Unc, pig stain	\$129
... 848 - St. III; VF, scratches	\$19
... 851 - Nice Unc, bronzed	\$129
... 876 - P-L Unc, bronzed	\$79
... 878 (Usual large flan) - AU	\$59

... 879 (Usual sm flan, thus weak) - Unc	\$59
... 884 - EF, stained & dbl struck rev	\$59
... 886 - Unc, weak, chatter-dbl rev	\$59
... 886b - Unc, pit, chatter-dbl rev	\$59
... 886b - Nice Unc, chatter-dbl rev	\$99
... 953 - Nice Toned Unc, clashed dies	\$49
... 1033 - Sharp EF	\$19
... 1034 - EF	\$17
... 1067a - Nice AU/Unc, museum #	\$39
NORFOLK 19 - P-L Unc, rev gouges	\$17
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 4 - Nice Dark Brown VF/EF. Rare	\$79
SOMERSETSHIRE 27 - Silvered; Choice Toned AU. Bell plate, P & C	\$79
... 36c - Nice Sharp Unc	\$39
SUFFOLK 34 - Choice Glossy AU	\$49
SUSSEX 16 - Fine, fantastic late die state	\$79
... 22 - Nice AU/Unc	\$55
WARWICKSHIRE 221a - Nice EF, large flan. Rare	\$99
... 238 - Nice VF/EF, 2 lt spots	\$29
... 251 - Nice VF/EF	\$39
ANGLESEY 42 or 51 - AU/Unc	\$49
... 391 - Choice Bronzed Proof, lt HLL.	\$59
... 425 - AU/Unc, minor scratches	\$49
... 427 - Choice EF/AU, minor flan flaw	\$29
... 438b - Nice AU/Unc	\$29
... 453 - AU, rev die flaw	\$25
... 453 - P-L Unc, lt HLL, rev die flaw	\$49
NORTH WALES 2c - Nice AU/Unc	\$25
... 19 - Nice AU, obv die flaw	\$39
LOTHIAN 50a - Nice AU	\$39
CORK 6 - Toned P-L Unc, lt HLL, RR	\$149
... 18 - Sharp Toned P-L Unc, lt HLL, R	\$79
DUBLIN 42 - Sharp Unc	\$39
... 307 - VF/EF, obv die break	\$17
... 338 - EF/AU	\$25



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Introduction

Our cover story this issue concerns the fabulous Sawbridgeworth Penny (Hertfordshire 1). The sale of this most important of "Conder" tokens was the highlight of the Noble Sale, which was certainly the "big" event in recent memory for those of us who pursue these fascinating little pieces of copper. The token brought an all time high sale price for a "Conder" (\$66,000 Australian) and also brought with it several interesting stories and bits of information about the piece of which I was unaware. Accordingly, I called Sharon and Jerry Bobbe (the new owners) and asked (begged) that they would write an article for this issue. They were kind enough to put together an excellent piece on short notice, and it is this issue's lead story. Sharon's beautiful photography graces our cover.

I have just, today, spoken with Wayne Anderson. He wants every one to know how much he has appreciated and been heartened by the many cards and expressions of support that he has received from club members. Wayne's cancer remains extremely serious, but his spirits are high and his determination to fight has been a real inspiration.

The 1999 American Numismatic Association Convention will be held August 11 - 15 in Chicago, IL. We intend to have a club meeting, unfortunately we do not have a firm time as of yet. If you attend, be sure to check schedules provided at the convention or check with any of our member dealers. It should be an important meeting. We hope to present our new Articles of Incorporation, discuss officer positions, and perhaps a few surprises.

I'm sure that you have noticed the attractive medal / token included with this issue. You will find more information about it further on in this issue, including some well deserved kudos for Phil Flanagan. I would like to point out, though, that the impedes for this medal came from Wayne Anderson, and his firm belief that the club should give back to members all that it possibly can. Building cash reserves is important, but our number one priority must be to give as much value to our members as possible. If you have any ideas to further this goal, please speak up!

I am delighted with the quality of the articles that were submitted by the membership for this issue. As it turned out, though, we had enough for this issue, but none to spare (not quite true, you can expect another episode in Dr. Richard Doty's fine series of articles in each of the next several issues). Once again, I hope that you will not leave me hanging out to dry! If you haven't written a piece for the journal yet, now would be an excellent time to put to paper some of your thoughts on an aspect of tokens that interests you.

One of the stalwarts of our organization and an all around nice guy has asked for some help. It seems Bill McKivor has had a major hard drive "crash" (don't you love this age of computers?). Anyway, Bill has lost the e-mail addresses of his customers and correspondents as a result. Please drop Bill a brief note of sympathy for his dearly departed hard drive along with your e-mail address. Bill can be reached at BMcKivor@juno.com. HDW

The Sawbridgeworth Stats

by Jerry & Sharon Bobbe

"No other token in the "Conder" series is more revered than the legendary Robert Orchard Sawbridgeworth penny. It stands "head and shoulders" above all else; the nose reaching literally a full 4 mm. above the field of the coin." The visual impact of this coin "shouts" its importance. But there's more to the Sawbridgeworth Penny than meets the eye.

Narcissistic grocer, tea dealer, and chocolate authority, Robert Orchard, was in his seventh year as a coin producer. His fifth token portrait in 1801 was to be his crowning glory, a full facial effigy like no one had seen before. However, it's possible that when the proud and egotistical Orchard appeared at Charles James's shop to see *his token*, he went "off his trolley."

During the striking of the very first coin, a chunk of the upper part of the reverse die, containing TH*PE nearly broke off, and was now barely attached. That part of the legend was visible on the coin, though there was a sizable crack from 11:30 to 1:00 (a retained cud). However, the worst feature was the portrait which did not fully strike up. Sections of the reverse were weaker still. The irate Mr. Orchard tossed the hideous coin on the work bench and smashed the reverse with a cutting tool. As James tried to pacify Orchard, proclaiming he could do better on the next striking, that upper section of the reverse die broke off in his hand. Orchard wanted a new reverse die cut. James wanted more money. Orchard refused! Suddenly James came up with a clever idea for the chocoholic Mr. Orchard to get his portrait. Orchard agreed, and left Mr. James to his art.

1 This first piece, with the mysterious reverse cut, is traced to:
Davis Sale, 11 March 1901: lot 56 to Spink for Lloyd (lot of six Hertford tokens at £3/14)
Hamer Sale, 26 November 1930: lot 91 to Baldwin (at £31!), Plate 1 Hamer catalogue

It's evident that it was carried as a "pocket piece" for a while, perhaps by Mr. James, to remind him of an irksome customer.

James's idea is brilliantly explained by Jim Noble in his article W.J. Noble Token Collection Auction-A Personal View (CTCC Journal, September 15, 1998):

"This is an extraordinary private token created for an immodest collector of the period as his ultimate attempt to achieve immortality through the medium of a struck portrait token. To strike such a high relief full facing portrait I have my own theory that a specially prepared flan was required with an extra lump of metal roughly shaped on the obverse that would fill the deep obverse die in the centre."

There are, or shall we say were, three additional specimens known. All three are superbly and fully struck, and possess the same large reverse rim cud which fills out the previously mentioned crack.

2 Piece two is in the British Museum, pedigree unknown to us. It has unfortunately been forced into a 2 ½ mm. deep coin cabinet too many times, resulting in Mr. Orchard's nose being replaced by a cavernous scrape of raw orange copper. How tragic!

3 Piece three is the Bell plate, Tradesmen's Tickets and Private Tokens, page 33.

Glendinings, 18 April 1923: lot 59 to Longman

Longman Sale, 12 March 1958: lot 69 (at £16) to Baldwin for Mr. Jan

Jan/Spink #26, 9 February 1983: lot 96 at £3885 to Patrick Deane

Deane had about 30 electrotypes manufactured which were sold for £150 each. Fortunately, other than for a few small bits of removable wax, no harm came to this pristine specimen. Shortly after its acquisition, Mr. Deane sold the piece, at cost (!), to Jim Noble, where it appeared as the star of his collection:

Noble Sale, 7 July 1998: lot 196 at A\$66,000 to some wacky Americans

4 Piece four is the D&H plate coin. Though its whereabouts is presently unknown to yours truly, rumors continue to abound.

In the Jan/Spink #26 sale, the cataloger states the "finest" is "the Hamer specimen, illustrated in the standard reference work" (D&H, we presume). Either this was an error, or it is possible Hamer once owned specimen four.

Robert Orchard went on to a new die sinker for his sixth portrait token in 1803, Middlesex D&H 38 (D&H incorrectly state the date to be 1808). The incomparable Mr. Milton cut the dies for this wonderful and somewhat less high-relief private penny token, of which 18 were struck. There is a unique lead obverse trial (Middlesex D&H 37) as well as a unique, circulated and badly nicked, silver proof (Noble: lot 290). Orchards' seventh and final portrait is on a common low-relief farthing, Middlesex D&H 1063, also produced by Milton, struck in 1804.

So there you have it. Fantastic appearance, ultimate rarity, and a great mystery "story," make Robert Orchard's Sawbridgeworth penny the stand-out token in all of D&H. However, questions remain, as so often is the case in the Conder series: Do more than four exist? What are the complete pedigrees of all known specimens? Where is piece four, and does it remain undamaged? At least the big question for most people has been answered. We now know *what it's worth!*

**Contemporary collector Thomas Woodward
in his annotated copy of Conder states:**



**"Robert Orchard, apprentice to a grocer in
St. John Street (West Smithfield), whose
vanity has induced him to have engraved
several tokens with his bust."**



Obverse Hertfordshire 1

A 1796 TOKEN CORRESPONDENCE

If you collected tokens in 1796 England, you were almost certainly a Gentleman. And every Gentleman almost certainly read “The Gentleman’s Magazine and Historical Chronicle”, a monthly publication that truly captured the spirit of the times. In reading through some originals of the magazine, I came upon a brief correspondence that transports us back to the days when tokens were still being manufactured, Charles Pye’s new book was just published, James Conder was an unpublished draper, and Atkins, Dalton, and Hamer were a century away.

On page 752 of the September 1796 issue, our writer’s letter of August 21 is published. He states two reasons for his writing - “... it may save much valuable time which might otherwise be consumed by others in the same sort of trifling research” and “... preventing the circulation of a great quantity of base metal, which is coined under the pretense of supplying persons who are collecting what are (as the business is now carried on, improperly) called Promissory Tokens.” Our writer then expresses his gratitude to “Mr. Pye, to whom I, as a collector, feel myself much indebted for his elegant publication on the subject.” Next comes a well designed system for classifying tokens into seven groups based on their “first intentions.”

---First--- “...genuine promissory tokens payable by real parties with their original dates. This will in truth be the collection of value, and should certainly not be suffered to mix with any other sort.”

---Second--- “...such tokens as bear the names of particular places but are not payable by any parties....”

---Third--- “...small pocket pieces or medals...”

---Fourth--- “...representations of churches and public buildings.”

---Fifth--- “...tradesmen’s copper shoptickets...”

---Sixth--- “British dependencies, such as Barbados, Bermudas, Sierre Leone, East Indies, etc.” Irish tokens are included here, but with a not too subtle insult. “...he will find sufficient variety to fill a drawer, and perhaps will derive as little pleasure from his

acquisitions as the artists of the Sister Kingdom have done credit from the execution of them.”

---Seventh--- “Such as wish to drink from the very depth of this dirty traffick may make a seventh division for political pieces.”

Now our writer returns to Pye; “Mr. Pye will, I am sure, pardon me for noticing some mistakes in his elegant publication”, and makes 13 specific objections to information in Pye’s book. At last, our author closes with a delightful 18th century gentleman’s farewell. “My hand being now tired and my paper and subject both at an end, I shall only add that such of your readers as are collectors are very welcome to any benefit they may derive from the foregoing observations; which, to avoid the importunity of addresses, I subscribe with the letters R.Y.”

The story doesn’t end here, however. Since Charles Pye was certainly an English Gentleman, he also read, “The Gentleman’s Magazine and Historical Chronicle.” Pye did not write to the magazine, but defended his book and evidently sent R.Y. some tokens to study. On page 837 of the October issue, our writer’s letter of October 7 appears and states: “Mr. Pye has obligingly favoured me with a sight of the tokens, from which he took this engraving...” A reluctant admission that Pye’s work is accurate follows, and our author finishes with “I will not conclude my letter without expressing a hope that, from some others of your numerous Correspondents, the collectors of provincial coins may receive information which may be useful in arranging their collections. R.Y.”

So who was R.Y. ? Did he continue his correspondence with Pye? Did he ever meet Conder? What other letters wait within the vast pages of “The Gentleman’s Magazine and Historical Chronicle” ? For those with further interest, I have sent photocopies of the complete original letters to the CTCC Library.

Michael Grogan CTCC 48

A MODIFIED SPENCE SERIES CHECKLIST

Harry E. Salyards

Waters, in his *Notes Respecting the Eighteenth Century Token Coinage of Middlesex*, listed a total of 60 dies attributed to Thomas Spence. These were reprinted by Allan Davisson in his *Numismatic Notebook and Catalog*, Winter 1998-1999, page 27. As I tried to link these to D & H numbers, I discovered a number of discrepancies. There were omissions of obvious Spence pieces, such as "Spence's Glorious Plan," Middlesex 676; and there were inclusions of dies that D & H list with the Skidmore series, instead. The rationale for some of these is obvious--for example, Middlesex 516, with the Fleur-de-lis reverse and Spence edge; the rationale for others is less clear to me--such as why "General Elliot," Middlesex 485, with its Skidmore obverse and milled edge, is tied to Spence at all. Then, of course, there are those "anti-Spence Spences," Middlesex 827-838, which Jim Wahl noted in *CTCC Journal #10*, were "mostly made by Skidmore." They certainly "express" a philosophy entirely contrary to Spence's own! Their only tie to Spence otherwise is the muling of the "Turnstile" die, Middlesex 693, with the "End of Pain" obverse used on Middlesex 828. Still others are omitted from the Waters list, which are solidly included in the Spence series as listed in D & H. Since the Spence series occupies a substantial block of Middlesex numbers (676-901); and since many are scarce to rare, few collectors would likely aspire to own all 226 varieties--not even counting edge variations! But a list of the different dies attributed to Spence by at least one of the above-noted authorities might prove useful--especially if that list were keyed to D & H. What follows is my attempt at such a list, using the first numerical appearance of each die in D & H.

After the Revolution: Middlesex 689
Anchor and Cable: Hampshire 35, and Northumberland 17 (with "J. Spence Slop-Seller" die)
Anchor and Liberty Cap: Middlesex 761
Anchor and Hearts: Middlesex 705
Arms of London: Middlesex 773
Ass: Middlesex 716
Before the Revolution: Middlesex 790
Beginning of Oppression: Middlesex 687
Blue Coat Boy: Middlesex 707
Boxers ("Fashionable Amusement"): Middlesex 726
Bridewell Boy: Middlesex 708
Britannia ("Rouse..."): Middlesex 678
British Liberty: Middlesex 725
Caduceus ("We Were Born Free..."): Middlesex 679
Cat: Middlesex 680
Church and King: Middlesex 523 (clearly a Skidmore piece, with a Skidmore sentiment!)
Citizens Armed (three): Middlesex 681
Coining Press: Middlesex 740
Deserted Village: Middlesex 744
Dog: Middlesex 750
Elliot (General): Middlesex 485 (again, no obvious tie to Spence that I can see)
End of Oppression: Middlesex 793
End of Pain: Middlesex 827 (see introductory comments)
England, Scotland, Ireland: Middlesex 741
English Slavery: Middlesex 760
Fleur-de-lis: Middlesex 516 (this muled to Skidmore, but with a Spence sentiment)
Fox (Charles): Middlesex 695
Freeborn Englishman: Middlesex 709
French Liberty: Middlesex 760
George Gordon: Middlesex 696

Guillotine: Middlesex 739
 Heart and Hand ("Honour"): Middlesex 682
 Highlander ("Gallant Garb of Scotland"): Middlesex 683
 Horne Tooke: Middlesex 702
 Indian: Middlesex 684
 Inscription, "T. Spence Bookseller...": Middlesex 694
 Inscription, "Noted Advocates for the Rights of Man": Middlesex 677
 Libertas: Middlesex 514 (with a Skidmore edge)
 Lion and Cock: Middlesex 685
 Marine Society Boy: Middlesex 698
 Mendoza: Middlesex 785
 Minerva: Middlesex 514 (with a Skidmore edge. D & H's first listing in Spence section is #699)
 Odd Fellows (King George and an Ass): Middlesex 686
 Odd Fellows (Pitt and Fox): Middlesex 795
 Old Bailey: Middlesex 780
 Pandora's Breeches: Middlesex 688
 Peace and Liberty: Middlesex 772
 Pig ("Pig's Meat..."): Middlesex 794
 Sailor ("A True Hearted..."): Middlesex 713
 Shepherd: Middlesex 690
 Siege of the Bastille: Middlesex 692
 Snail: Middlesex 714
 Soldier greeting two citizens ("We also are the people"): Middlesex 691
 Spaniard: Middlesex 700
 Spence's bust: Middlesex 677
 Spence's Glorious Plan (Obverse and Reverse dies): Middlesex 676
 Stag: Middlesex 862
 Thelwall (John): Middlesex 701
 Tiger ("Royal Male"): Middlesex 344 (muled with James'; in D & H Spence section first at #870)
 Tree of Liberty: Middlesex 797
 Turk ("The Habit of a..."): Middlesex 703
 Turnstile: Middlesex 693
 United Token: Middlesex 899
 Westminster Scholar: Middlesex 704

Again, this list provides only the first D & H number for each die. For some dies, that represents the only number--e.g., Peace and Liberty was used uniquely on Middlesex 772. Some others were used on only two varieties, and the "pure" Spence usage is much the rarer--e.g., the Royal Male Tiger. Others were used over and over, in all kinds of mulings, both within the Middlesex series and outside it. For these dies, many more D & H variety numbers will obviously apply. Still, this list should enable any collector to readily locate an illustration in Dalton and Hamer for any die attributed to Thomas Spence.



Thomas Spence

Hygeia and the Botanic Garden

by
David S. Brooke

The Goddess of Health appears only once on late-18th century provincial coinage.¹ She drops some herbs into a still, and a small bush beside her suggests a garden setting. The legend tells us that this is "Hygeia Preparing Velnos Vegetable Syrup," and the obverse of the token shows the bust of the proud and successful manufacturer of this well-known nostrum, Isaac Swainson (1746-1812).²

According to Swainson's rather fulsome obituary in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, "the greater part of his life was devoted to an unremitting study of how he might most effectively remove or alleviate the sufferings of his fellow creatures by preparing and administering the celebrated vegetable syrup of which he was the sole proprietor."³ This task he undertook with great tenacity and seriousness, publishing several books and pamphlets on the subject and making a considerable fortune.⁴ He was buried at Twickenham where "led on by ardent desire to increase his knowledge of the vegetable kingdom, he had formed a botanical garden which has long been, not only the admiration of the nobility and gentry in the neighbourhood, but of men of science in almost all parts of the island."⁵

Swainson purchased the recipe for his Vegetable Syrup in the early 1780s, probably from the inventor who first sang its praises in 1765.⁶ Mrs. Swainson's relief from palsy by means of the Syrup "determined Mr. Swainson not to become a quack doctor (for he will never sink the uniform reputation of his life to act in that suspicious and injurious capacity) but to purchase, at a very high price, the original recipe of Mr. De Velnos, and to see it prepared and sold with the strictest integrity and honour."⁷ "I bought the property of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup as I would a brew house: and I prepare the

¹ Dalton and Hamer, Middlesex 907. Probably 18 of these were struck, and there was at least one silver proof.

² A brief biography of Swainson is given in Henry Swainson Cowper, *Hawkshead*, London, 1899, pp. 406-407. Cowper claims that Swainson served as an assistant to a Dr. Mercier (who worked with De Velnos), and obtained a medical degree in 1785. Swainson, in *Mercury Stark Naked*, 1797, explains that "On purchasing the property of De Velnos, in Frith Street, I was furnished with a Scotch diploma of M.D. but I have never worn it; as I saw similar titles used in advertisements, as the instruments of the greatest imposture." According to Cowper, Swainson's library contained six thousand volumes and "fifty folios of rare botanical prints." Also mentioned are his circle of rather eccentric friends and his "small but choice" collection of paintings which included works by James Northcote, George Morland and James Ward. See also the entry on Swainson in Ray Desmond, *Dictionary of British and Irish Botanists and Horticulturists*, London, 1994, p. 666.

³ *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 82, pt. 1 (March 1812), pp. 300-301.

⁴ *An Account of Cures by Velnos' Vegetable Syrup*, London, 1790; *Directions for the Use of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup*, London, ca. 1791; *Observations on the Venereal Disease*, London 1792; *Mercury Stark Naked: A Series of Letters Addressed to Dr. Beddoes*, London, 1797. More pamphlets are listed in the *Directions*. According to Joseph Farington's diary (November 23, 1798), the sale of Velnos gave Swainson "on an average 5000 pounds a year."

⁵ *Gentleman's Magazine*, *op. cit.*, p. 301.

⁶ Jean-Jacques Vergeley de Velnos, *Dissertation sur un nouveau remède anti-venérien vegetal*, Paris, 1765, 1768.

⁷ Swainson, *An Account of Cures*, *op. cit.*, pp. 110-111

syrup, as a Brewer prepares porter, by a recipe peculiar to the house and known to no other . . . I assume none of the pretensions and perform none of the acts of a doctor.”⁸

The exact ingredients of Velnos remain a mystery. In the archives of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew there is a letter of 1786 from Swainson to a Dr. George Fordyce who had asserted that the Syrup contained mercury.⁹ Swainson vigorously denied this, offering a sample of the Syrup for impartial analysis, and wagering a hundred pounds on its non-mercurial content. Fordyce was not to be drawn into battle, however, and a few years later Velnos Syrup was assaulted again, on this occasion by a Dr. James Adair: “Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup is not vended by patent, but is found on analysis to be a preparation of sublimate mercury combined with mucilage of gum arabic, honey and common syrup.”¹⁰

In the directions for the use of his medicine, Swainson vigorously denied that it contained any of these ingredients, and it does appear that Adair may have obtained an analysis of a rival syrup. At any rate, he apologized to Swainson, albeit through a third party.¹¹ Swainson’s ongoing battle with the regular medical profession is amusingly caricatured by Thomas Rowlandson in his print Mercury and His Advocates Defeated, or Vegetable Entrenchment (see illustration).¹² The noble Swainson, behind a barricade of Velnos bottles, confronts a hostile army of doctors, spurred on by the god Mercury. In 1797, Swainson published Mercury Stark Naked. He begins with an explanation of the title: “In modern times (Mercury) has treacherously assumed a medical character, and by assisting diseases in their work of death, he multiplies his original occupation as conductor of souls.” In 1816, Swainson’s nephew, Thomas Canham, who carried on the business after his uncle’s death in 1812, was still engaged in anti-mercurial advertising.¹³

Bottles of Velnos appear in several other late-18th century prints, attesting to its popularity. Two are found in James Gillray’s well-known caricatures of the Prince of Wales, A Voluptuary under the Horrors of Digestion (1792), and The Lover’s Dream (1795) where the medicine is to be found under the bed, in a chamber-pot.¹⁴ In Robert Dighton’s The Old Goat of Piccadilly (1796), Lord Queensberry, a well-known rake, is escorting a buxom young milliner, with bottles of Velnos and Renovating Balsam protruding from his coat pockets.¹⁵ The Syrup was celebrated as an anti-venereal medicine, and one of Swainson’s publications dealt specifically with this application of it.

One would like to think that Hygeia is busy distilling herbs from Swainson’s own garden. He was apparently a serious botanist, and we have some accounts of the garden at Twickenham which was kept up, after a fashion, until the 1830s. A writer in the Gardener’s Magazine of 1833 (who had visited the place in 1804, when Swainson was

⁸ Swainson, Directions, op. cit., p. 10. Swainson claimed that he sold some twenty-thousand bottles of Velnos a year, two-thirds of which were “ordered directly or indirectly by the [medical] faculty.” If he performed none of the acts of a doctor, he came rather close to doing so, seeing patients and prescribing treatments with Velnos.

⁹ William Forsyth correspondence, doc. 26-27.

¹⁰ James M. Adair, Essays on Fashionable Diseases, London, 1790, p. 195.

¹¹ Swainson, Directions, op. cit., p. 14.

¹² Mary D. George, Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires in the British Museum, no. 7592.

¹³ The advertisement is given in R.C. Bell, Tradesmen’s Tickets and Private Tokens, 1966, p. 115.

¹⁴ George, op. cit., nos. 8112 and 8610.

¹⁵ Ibid., no. 8867. Velnos Syrup also features in two anecdotes published in James Bannatine, New Joe Miller, or the Tickler, London, 1800, pp. 149-150, 163-164.

alive) commented: "Whoever wishes to see the ruins of a botanic garden of the old school, combining a Linnean arrangement with a general disposition of the masses in beds, so as to produce ornamental or picturesque effect, ought to visit this garden."¹⁶ At this time there was still "a collection of choice botanical works in the house and a herbarium in good preservation." The nursery was apparently renowned for its production of medicinal herbs and curious plants of the other kinds.¹⁷ In 1833, the gardener, a Mr. Castles, offered a donation of five hundred species when the formation of a Metropolitan Botanic Garden was being considered.¹⁸

According to Swainson himself, his botanic garden contained eight- to ten-thousand species of plants. In one of his anti-mercurial letters to Dr. Beddoes, he proposes that they try out two potions on patients. The doctor's will contain a "mineral poison," and Swainson's will be prepared from an "acid and deleterious vegetable" taken out of his garden. He concludes: "You shall apparently cure the disorder and leave your patient emaciated and enervated. I will really cure the disorder and send the patient away in firm and good health."¹⁹

I am inclined to give Isaac Swainson the benefit of the doubt, and assume that Hygeia is indeed dropping herbs, probably from his garden, and without mineral additives, into that still. I would very much like to know, however, exactly what he did concoct in the Frith Street warehouse where he died, and which he defends so vigorously in Rowlandson's caricature. It is too much to hope that an unopened bottle of Velnos Vegetable Syrup will turn up, though a similar herbal remedy may already be on the market.²⁰

Note: In venturing into the unfamiliar territory of botanic gardens and irregular medicine, I have much appreciated the help of the following: Sylvia Fitzgerald and Lesley Price at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Christine Turfitt at the Richmond (Surrey) Library; Sarah Bakewell at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London; Marilyn Nowlan at the Yale Medical Library; Anna Malicka at the Lewis Walpole Library, Farmington; and Professor Gary D. Hall at the Albany College of Pharmacy. Finally, I would like to thank Sharon Bobbe for an excellent photograph of Swainson's token, and Nancy Spiegel and Valerie Krall of the Clark Art Institute Library for their continuing interest and support.

¹⁶ *Gardener's Magazine*, vol. 9, 1833, p. 522.

¹⁷ R.S. Cobbett, *Memorials of Twickenham*, 1872.

¹⁸ *Gardener's Magazine*, *op. cit.*

¹⁹ Swainson, *Mercury Stark Naked*, *op. cit.*, p. 22. He goes on to discuss the English custom of "over-boiling the milder vegetables" and the French avoidance of scurvy by eating them raw.

²⁰ There seems to have been a "common stockpot" of effective ingredients for regular and irregular medicine—mercury, antimony, opium, aloes, senna and rhubarb—much of it purgative. Claims to cure venereal disease without recourse to mercury (which had unpleasant side effects) and with mineral-free vegetable extracts, were not confined to Swainson. These extracts were probably based on quiacum, sassafras and sarsaparilla which would have had some effect, albeit temporary. See Roy Porter, *Health for Sale: Quackery in England, 1660-1850*, Manchester, 1989.



MERCURY and his ADVOCATES DEFEATED, or VEGETABLE INTRENCHMENT



Lord George Gordon and Barnaby Rudge :
A Tale of the Riots of 'Eighty
by: Thomas Fredette, CTCC No. 60

I discovered many years ago that most "true" token collectors have an interest in historical periods and a desire to know the "why" behind a coin or token. A great deal of information about the day to day lives of the people of a certain era can be gleaned from research or careful reading. This is why when I began to read Charles Dickens' novel BARNABY RUDGE I was intrigued by references to Lord George Gordon and the Gordon Riots of 1780.

Kathleen Tillotson writes in her (1953) introduction to the novel that Dickens was fascinated by the riots which had occurred 60 years before he wrote this novel. She further states that the author had a "...tenacity of purpose and the grip of (an) original idea on his imagination..." when he decided to use the riots as one of his core events for BARNABY RUDGE.

Who Lord George Gordon was and what the Gordon Riots were are the "whys" this "true" collector set out to find the answers to. This historical personage and the riots are commemorated on a series of tokens by Spence. They are listed primarily as Middlesex Nos. 775-782.

To paraphrase Dickens, the Gordon Riots occurred in 1780 as a form of protest and petition to Parliament to reverse or at least not to act on a law called the Catholic Relief Act (1778). This act abolished many of the restrictions on the Roman Catholic Church in England. Lord George Gordon served as a leader and figurehead for many of those who feared the influence of the church. In the novel, the rallying cry of the mobs was "No Popery!"



No. 782,



Lord George Gordon, detail of an engraving from a drawing by R. Bran, 1780
By courtesy of the trustees of the British Museum



Nos. 775-781

There are two obverse portraits of the Gordon token. Middlesex Nos. 775-781 show us the second obverse. In their introduction to this section of the catalogue, Dalton and Hamer state that this: "...portrait of Lord George Gordon, who died in Newgate, Nov. 1, 1793, appears as an obverse; also another without the legend; this is the original impression, the die being afterwards softened and the legend added." No. 782, the original impression (above) is a fine cameo portrait of Lord George with a reverse which gives his name and the year of the riots. I am partial to cameo portraits and No. 782 presents what I would call a sharply defined profile. Dickens describes him for us in Chapter XXXVII - "The Holy Cause":

...as a nobleman of somewhat quaint and odd exterior, sitting upright upon his steed with his long, straight hair, dangling about his face and fluttering in the wind - his limbs all angular and rigid, his elbows stuck out on either side ungracefully and his whole frame jogged and shaken at every motion of his horse's feet; a more grotesque or more ungainly figure can hardly be conceived. Stiff, lank and solemn, dressed in an unusual manner, and ostentatiously exhibiting - whether by design or accident - all his peculiarities of carriage, gesture and conduct, all the qualities natural and artificial, in which he differed from other men.

The second (legend) obverse bears the date of his death in Newgate prison, November 1, 1793.



LORD GEORGE GORDON



Lord George Gordon in the Tower

This portrait is found as a reverse on Middlesex No. 696 and as an obverse on a half-dozen plus other tokens by Spence. No. 780, which features "Old Baily" ties in particularly with the tale of the riots.

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica the riots "...lasted a week, causing 500 casualties. For his part in instigating the violence, Gordon was arrested on a charge of high treason." He was acquitted but he ended up in Newgate eventually for reasons unrelated to his part in these events.

Many of the other leaders and participants were punished by the Crown and this passage from the novel is reminiscent of Spence token, Middlesex No. 827 which shows us a man hanged and comes from Chapter LXXVII - "On the Brink of the Scaffold":

One young man was hanged in Bishopsgate-street whose aged, grey-headed father waited for him at the gallows, kissed him at its foot when he arrived, and sat there, on the ground, till they took him down. They would have given him the body of his child; but he had no hearse, no coffin, nothing to remove it in, being too poor...

There is more to the story, of course. But the purpose of this article has been to share with the reader a little knowledge gained about a person immortalized in copper because of a short, few weeks of fame.

Token Tales

Great Siege Of Gibraltar

By R. C. Bell

Newcastle on Tyne, England

During the American War of Independence the great British fortress of Gibraltar survived one of the outstanding sieges of history, lasting three years, seven months and twelve days. It began on June 21, 1779, when the Spanish cut off the land approaches and built siege batteries.

In November the garrison was cheered by the arrival of the privateer "Buck" with supplies, after a sharp action with enemy vessels. Over the months several other ships slipped through the enemy blockade and in January, 1780, Admiral Rodney defeated Juan de Langara and sailed with a large convoy into Gibraltar harbor.

On June 7, 1780, after the siege had progressed almost a year, the Spanish sent fire-ships against anchored British shipping, but these were diverted by a force under Captain Lesley of the frigate "Enterprise," and the hulls which drifted ashore were welcome additions to the defenders' supply of firewood.

As the months dragged on food became short and thistles and dandelions



General George Elliott halfpenny token issued by Henry Biggs, a licensed victualler, who kept the inn "General Elliott" in Birmingham, England. This token, which was issued in large numbers and circulated freely, made Elliott's face known to many Englishmen of the day, though he had died before this piece was struck. D & H Warks. 70.



Gibraltar. Token for two quartos issued for Gibraltar by Robert Keeling in 1802. Atkins number 4. (All tokens shown enlarged about 1½ times.)

appeared on the menu. In an effort to discover the minimum requirements for maintaining life, the commandant General Elliot himself lived for eight days on a daily ration of four ounces of rice.

Soon the effective strength of the garrison was gravely reduced by scurvy which caused havoc among the troops, until a blockade runner arrived with a cargo of oranges and lemons. The citrus fruits ended the scurvy threat.

In January, 1781, the English residents of Barbary were expelled by the Spanish, and another avenue of supply and information was closed to the Gibraltar defenders. Day after day an average of fifteen hundred shells landed on Gibraltar from land and sea. At one time the Spaniards fired 76,000 shot and shell in six weeks into the fortress, killing 70 men.

Then in November, 1781, Elliot made a surprise sortie with 2,200 men and destroyed most of the Spanish siege fortifications, blowing up powder magazines and spiking 28 guns and mortars, with very few English casualties. In April 1782 he ordered a number of iron grates to be made to heat shot in anticipation of a major attack from the sea.

Token Tales



Gibraltar fortifications may be seen on this Gibraltar token for two quartos (one penny) issued in 1820 by James Spittles. Atkins number 12.

This developed on September 13, 1782, when the Spanish, reinforced with French troops, with a combined army of 33,000 men under the Duc de Crillon, attacked the garrison of 700, of whom 400 were in hospital.

The offensive was supported by 250 guns against the garrison's 96, but a Major Shrapnell had invented a new shell with a range of 1,200 yards and packed with heavy shot. The shell burst in the air showering advancing troops in their massed formations with devastating effect.

The Spanish attack on land was supported by a bombardment from the sea. Ten ships, protected with green timber two yards thick, bolted with iron, cork, and rawhide, were moored within half-a-gunshot of the fortifications. The vessels carried heavy guns which were sheltered by a sloping roof designed to deflect the garrison's shells, and the British artillery proved impotent against the massive armor of the ships, whose gunners fired with great accuracy and coolness to cause considerable damage to the shore defences.

At this point Elliott ordered the portable furnaces to be brought into action, and the defenders' shot was heated before being dropped down the barrels of the cannon. The artillery duel lasted all day but the outnumbered shore gunners with their 'roasted potatoes' gained



Halfpenny token issued for general sale in England, honoring the "valiant British tars," as the blundered legend is saying. Dalton and Hamer Hants. 14a.



Halfpenny token of England issued for general sale shows a bust of Admiral Lord Howe, D & H Hants. 35.

the advantage, and by nightfall the battery ships were severely damaged.

The fighting continued during the night, and one by one every ship caught fire, exploded or burnt to the waterline.

The French and Spanish land bombardment continued for more than a fortnight, but on October 11, 1782, Lord Howe arrived with a convoy of supplies and reinforcements. When he left Gibraltar he drew off the enemy fleet in pursuit, and the blockade was lifted without an engagement.

The disappearance of the Spanish fleet discouraged their land forces and the siege continued in only a half hearted fashion, with three or four shells a day lobbed into defences.

On February 6, 1783, peace preliminaries were signed, and the long siege was over with General Elliott still in possession of the Rock, and in recognition of his services to England this resourceful commander was created Lord Heathfield. He died July 6, 1790.

(References: Atkins, J., "The Coins and Tokens of the Possessions and Colonies of the British Empire," 1889.)

Next: Whaling - "Thar She Blows!"

MATTHEW BOULTON'S HORNCHURCH HALFPENNY

The mid-1790s saw Matthew Boulton in something of a dilemma. This entrepreneur was still convinced that the British Government would eventually grant him an exclusive concession to coin its copper money - and might well tap him to reconstruct the Royal Mint. But he was currently living on faith rather than concrete evidence: he was no closer to his goals now than he had been nearly a decade earlier. He was, however, much deeper in debt than he had ever dreamed possible, and he found himself avidly searching for coining orders of all sizes and types to keep his mint running, his people employed, and his growing indebtedness at least slowed if not reversed.

He struck coinage for places ranging from India to Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast. He also struck tokens. A number of the latter were continuations or conclusions of earlier orders: Boulton minted a final batch of halfpennies for his sometime collaborator John Wilkinson in 1795, and he closed out a profitable arrangement with Mackintosh, Inglis & Wilson in 1796. But there were some new issues too, and I wish to turn to them in this and succeeding articles.

These pieces are among the least-known of Boulton's products. None was struck in large quantity, and none bears the actual date of issue. In several cases, we have been ignorant of the name of the issuer - which strikes me as a basic *lacuna* when speaking of this type of private currency. So the next few instalments of the Boulton story will provide information which will, I hope, be new and useful to collectors of the provincial series.

In point of time, the first of these enigmatic tokens was created for a London innkeeper named Christopher Ibberson.¹ The owner of a tavern would have been an obvious candidate for private small change; indeed, Boulton's first independent foray into the token trade had been for just such a businessman. Ibberson was the proprietor of the George and Blue Boar in High Holborn, London, and he approached the coiner with a request for tokens a few days before Christmas 1794. Boulton responded with patterns during the first weeks of 1795, but the publican then became concerned over the legality of the issue (having heard that the British Government was about to put a stop to such private coinage). He asked Boulton to rescind the order, and the latter complied. The Matthew Boulton Papers give no clue as to total mintage, but the token is reasonably available to

¹You can read more about this abortive piece in an article I wrote for *Spink Numismatic Circular* (XCIV, 2 [March 1986], pp. 39-40), 'Notes on the Ibberson Token'.

anyone who wants it. I estimate that two hundred or so were originally struck by Soho in the mid-1790s. The firm may have restruck the piece some decades later, and the ubiquitous W. J. Taylor (who had purchased many original Soho dies upon the demise of the operation in 1850) created a completely new, imitation Ibberson token, which can be most easily told from the original by its absence of a lettered edge.²

The point I would make here is that the Ibberson token is undated. Did the innkeeper hope to evade the attention of the authorities by confusing them as to the length of time his wares had been in circulation? Of course, if he were all that worried about prosecution, it would have been a good idea to leave off his name and address as well; so the absence of a date may mean little or nothing in this case. But when we come to the next few tokens, the intention may have been more deliberate, a desire on the part of issuer and coiner alike to hedge one's bets. The attempt was successful indeed: until now, we have been ignorant both of the persons responsible for the tokens and of the date when they were manufactured.

The first of these mysterious pieces has been identified with the village of Hornchurch, in Essex. Robert C. Bell lists it in *Tradesmen's Tickets and Private Tokens, 1785-1819* (1966), surmising that it may have been a commemorative medalet rather than a halfpenny token. This idea is a reasonable one, based on the evidence presented by the object: no issuer's name is given, and the date refers to the founding of the town, not the time of manufacture. Moreover, the edge is plain, and that would be the logical place to expect information about the means of redemption. But the Hornchurch piece is a token all the same, and the man who commissioned it was very precise on that point.

The latter was a resident of Romford, Essex, named George Cotton. On 2 April 1795, Cotton wrote Matthew Boulton for an estimate on the cost of coining. Cotton's original letter has not survived, but a press copy of Boulton's reply (dated 8 April 1795) makes it clear what sort of coining was under consideration. Boulton observes that, while Cotton could have a pair of engraved

²There are two types of genuine Ibberson tokens. The first, D&H 339, features a small boar as the crest and is very rare, the die having broken shortly after striking began. The second variety is slightly more common, D&H 342, distinguished by a larger crest. Noël-Alexandre Ponthon designed both tokens. D&H 338 is a uniface strike of D&H 339, without the crest, and D&H 340 and 341 are mules or restrikes, which may or may not have been created at Soho during Matthew Boulton's lifetime. Taylor's 'restrike' dates from around 1870 and is D&H 343.

dies for four guineas, he ought to bear in mind 'that Government is actually [now] taking measures to put an entire Stop to the issuing of Tradesmen's Halfpence, and [I] am therefore led to suppose that you would judge it advisable to drop the Business at present'.³ But if he were still interested, he could have a ton of tokens for £100, delivered at Birmingham. Note that Boulton too mentions a possible ban on token circulation; such apprehension may have inspired George Cotton to leave his name and date off of the Hornchurch token, even as he indeed decided to have Boulton proceed with the project. He apparently visited Soho Mint on at least one occasion and possibly others, and he eventually described precisely what he wanted, and why. His letter is worth quoting *in extenso*, because it tells us most of what we need to know about the Hornchurch halfpenny.

Sir/

I hope by this time you have completed the Dyes [sic], [I] was well satisfied with the execution of them except the Head of Edward being too low [I] suppose you have had to cut a new one; and I] should take it a Favour to send Two Hundred Weight immediately by the method pointed-out and say how I am to pay the Amount[.] I should wish to have them directly to see how they would take as a substitute for Halfpence, as we are pestered with such paltry trash here, six of which will not weigh an Ounce; if the people of our Liberty [the Royal liberty of Havering-atte-Bower, for whom the tokens were intended] are satisfied with them [I] should want a considerable quantity, as I would risk Government interfering about the Business; having many Soldiers and Barrucks [sic; barracks] building here is the means of introducing such a quantity of the small stamp Halfpence---⁴

There can be no doubt that Cotton refers to the Hornchurch token. There also seems little doubt that he deemed the shortage of decent coinage - or tokens - worth the risk of circulating this one.

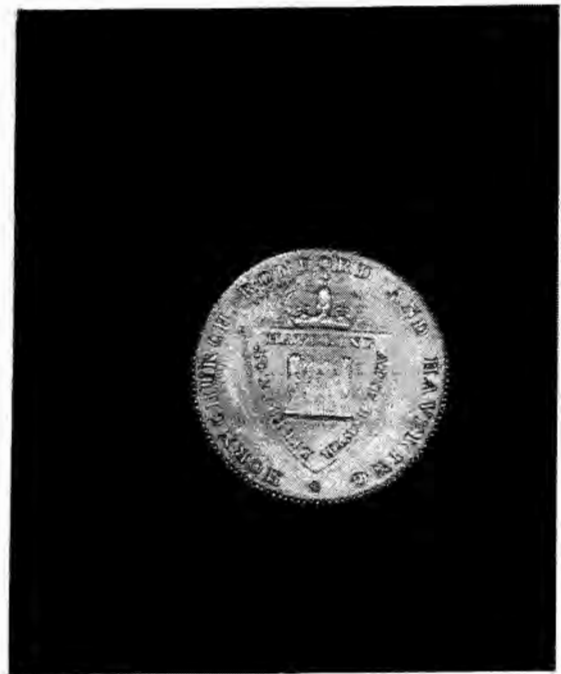
After three months' inactivity (by which time it had become apparent that the British Government would neither ban trade tokens or give Soho a regal contract to supplant them, at least for now), Matthew Boulton again turned his attention to George Cotton and his tokens for Hornchurch. In most cases, we can only estimate the extent of a Soho token issue, based on the

³Matthew Boulton Papers [MBP] 227, Letter Box C3, Matthew Boulton to George Cotton, 8 April 1795.

⁴MBP227, George Cotton to Matthew Boulton, 20 June 1795.



Ibberson's Halfpenny



Hornchurch Halfpenny

average weight of the pieces and the recorded output in hundredweights. But in this case, we know *exactly* how many tokens the coiner prepared and remitted. He sent Cotton a box containing 125 paper rolls, with eighty-four tokens in each, and a final, short roll, containing sixty-three specimens. (While the Matthew Boulton Papers are silent, that short roll may have consisted of proofs.) In any case, simple multiplication gives us a total mintage figure of 10,563. The box was loaded onto a wagon and directed to the attention of Mr. Carpenter, No. 16, High Street, Aldgate, London, who was apparently acting as Cotton's agent. An invoice for £23.10.6 was sent the same day (2 October 1795). It included charges of £7.7.0, or seven guineas, for dies, which may tally with Cotton's observations on the necessity of making a second obverse die.⁵ Payment in full was received on the last day of the month.

As noted earlier, there had once been talk of a full ton of tokens. For reasons not known, Cotton had lowered his demands by ninety percent in June - and he was apparently satisfied with what he received in October, for we find no additional orders in the Matthew Boulton Papers. The Hornchurch pieces are not among the most artistic ever struck by Matthew Boulton, but their line is clean, the portrait of Edward IV sympathetic, and the number of circulated specimens encountered suggests that they served the purpose for which they had been created. The same could be said for another Boulton token, another undated issue, for a Scottish draper named William Croom. The Croom story forms the basis of my next article.

—R. G. DOTY

⁵The first die was apparently never used for coining. While two varieties of Hornchurch tokens are indeed known (D&H 33 and 34), their sole point of difference seems to reside in the figure '1' of the foundation-date, which features a slanted top in the first case and a square top in the second. Any piece with an obverse difference as obvious as the one Cotton mentioned would have not gone unrecorded by pioneer researchers or their later counterparts.

Bell and Dalton & Hamer both say that Noël-Alexandre Ponthon engraved the dies - an attribution I find somewhat hard to believe. The work on the Hornchurch piece lacks this artist's usual delicate touch, and I would suggest instead that Conrad-Heinrich Kùchler did the work. The latter arrived at Soho in the summer of 1795, just as Ponthon was leaving the establishment. Either man could have been responsible for the Hornchurch halfpenny; but I vote for Kùchler.

CTCC Token



With this issue, each member is receiving a bronze example of the first CTCC token. I am sure that you will agree with me that Phil Flanagan has done a wonderful job with the design and production of this beautiful piece. Unlike Phil, I managed to fowl it up! The text that he sent to me for the notice in the last issue made perfect sense. However, in the course of entering it into my computer, I managed to skip a line, totally confusing the explanation of the silver and gold tokens.

Fifty silver tokens have been struck. They come in an airtight plastic capsule, housed in a plush presentation box. The price is \$25.00, checks should be made to the CTCC and sent to me, Harold Welch 655 Parkwood Circle, St. Paul, MN 55127. Orders should be received by July 15th. A definite decision as to whether to strike gold versions has yet to be made. It will depend whether there is sufficient interest to justify their production. The gold token should weigh about one ounce and would be priced about \$50 above the spot price of gold. Once again, please advise me of your interest by July 15.

Ex Libris

The library continues to grow. Michael Grogan has made two fine contributions:

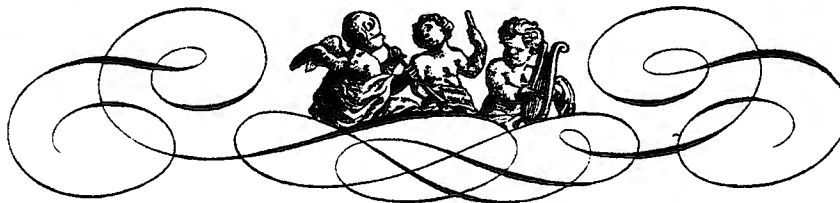
- *Perspectives in Numismatics* edited by Saul Needham, Ph.D. This work includes interesting articles on a number of topics, including a fine article by our own Dr. Richard Doty, Ph.D., entitled *English Merchant Tokens*.
- A bound photocopy of *Hull and East Yorkshire Tradesmen's Tokens*, by W. Sykes, taken from *The Transactions of the East Riding Antiquarian Society* Volume XVII 1910.

Remy Bourne contributed the *Schwer Price Guide to 18th Century Tokens*.

Wayne Anderson provided us with a copy of Baldwin's Auctions #19 4 May 1999. The auction contains only 37 lots of tokens, but they are of extremely high quality and well illustrated.

Edward Hazenberg made a cash donation (always welcome).

Thank you to all of our generous members. Please remember that the library is here for your benefit. Use it!



18th Annual Token Congress

Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th September, 1999

The 1999 Token Congress will be held at Carlisle from Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th September, at the Cumbrian College of Art & Design. Adequate free parking is available at the College, and there is easy wheelchair access to most facilities.

Cost per person is expected to be £105 for those resident from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon (including Friday evening meal), and less for those attending part-time or non-resident, as indicated below. Subject to arrangement, it is hoped that this will include a guided tour of the city's historical sites.

Accommodation is in a modern student block comprising single rooms with hand-washbasins in each room, and each group of six rooms shares a Sitting/Common Room and shower/bath/toilet facilities. A very limited number of en-suite single rooms are also available at an additional cost of £2 per room/night, but preference will be given to the ladies attending and persons with special needs. As part of a cost-cutting exercise, it will be necessary for individuals to make up their own beds on Saturday morning. Also, due to planned refurbishment work in the bar area, a temporary bar will be set up and to this end you are requested to indicate your drink preferences. Although I have been told that draught beer/lager will not be available, I am still hopeful that this could be arranged. In any event, there is an excellent pub only a few minutes walk away for those with a compelling need for sustenance.

Cost per person is expected to be:

All inclusive (not en-suite)	- £105
One night accommodation	- £ 80
No accommodation (meals only)	- £ 50

A varied programme is being planned and the customary bourse will take place on the Saturday evening after dinner. Newcomers are especially welcome, regardless of level of interest or knowledge, and a memorable weekend is assured. Speakers are still invited on the subject of their choice, and volunteers are required to stage the congress in the year 2000 and beyond.

By way of advance notice, in order that you can start thinking about it, I propose conducting an open discussion at an appropriate time during the proceedings to decide, if possible, a more satisfactory way of managing the floating fund which, as you will be aware, now exceeds £1000.00.

To reserve a place at this, the last congress of the century and millennium, in a city of unrivalled historic and numismatic significance (more about that later), please complete the enclosed booking form and send it with a deposit of £25 per person to:

C R S Farthing
10 Greenbanks Gardens
Wallington
Fareham
Hants, PO16 8SF.

18th Annual Token Congress

Please reserve me.....residential/non-residential place(s) at the 1999 Token Congress

I/We propose arriving in time for/after dinner on Friday, 3 Sept

I/We would like to book accommodation for Saturday night only

I/We would like to book meals only

If available, my/our preference is for an en-suite room at an extra cost of £2 per person/night.....(tick)

Please indicate any dietary or other special requirements.....

My drinks preferences are.....

I/We would like to reserve a table at the bourse on Saturday evening(tick) , at £5 per table, and request the provision of a power supply for supplementary lighting.....(tick)

I will have available a short talk entitled..... taking.....minutes, and request the provision of a 35mm Slide Projector/OHP/Other

I would like a brief (5 minute) slot.....(tick)

I would like to volunteer the following venue for year 2000 (or later).....(which?)

I. We enclose a deposit of £.....(Payable to "Token Congress")

Name(s).....

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

Tel. No.....

Interests.....

Davis' *Nineteenth Century* *Token-Coinage* . . .

A Preliminary Inventory

Part 2

by Harold Welch

In the last issue, I requested people who own an original *Davis* to please let me know that I might include their copy in my work (for that matter, I would like to hear about any of the classic token works that are numbered copies, or have book-plates or ownership inscriptions, interesting annotation, or anything that you think makes it special or unique). Happily, some members were kind enough to contact me. However, I am sure that many other interesting token volumes have yet to be brought to my attention. Please let me hear from you, and having completed my begging I will now continue with the list:

Copy #58

In the collection of Oxford's Bodlean Library.

Copy #64

Original quarter morocco, top edge gilt. Very good copy, internally fine. \$200.00 *Realized* \$210.00
Kolbe Sale #7 June 13&14, 1980 Lot 140

Copy #73

A very nice copy in the original brown quarter morocco, gilt, t.e.g. others uncut, as published; a trifle scuffed. £120
SNC November 1979 Item S7337

Copy #89

Original binding defective, internally fine.
(Est. \$150.00)
Kolbe "Ted Craige Sale" Aug. 13, 1983 Lot 296

Copy #91

Original brown morocco, gilt, t.e.g., others uncut.
Fine copy. £45
John Drury #17 Autumn 1974 Item 207

Additional appearances:

John Drury #25 (1976) Item 99 £50

John Drury #30 (1977) Item 61 £60

Copy #94

In the collection of the University of Michigan.

Copy #95

Some penciled annotations by a previous owner in the text, obviously a token collector. Original brown quarter morocco, back gilt, recased neatly, worn at extremities, contents clean. (£200)
SNC December 1993 Item S908

Additional appearances:

Kolbe / Spink #8 December 10, 1989 Lot 396
(Est. \$200.00) *Realized* \$200.00

Davis MBS #27 September 23, 1993 Lot 573
Est. \$250.00

SNC February 1995 Lot S12 £295

Pennies & Postage (Del Parker) April, 1999
Offered at \$400.00

Copy #119

Quarter leather and maroon cloth, gilt title with medallions, gilt spine, top edge gilt. VF. \$250.00
Function Associates MBS #38 Feb. 3, 1998
Lot H14

Copy #127

Original binding much scuffing. \$100 *Real.* \$55
Katen Sale #36 August 15, 1971 Lot 689

Copy #137

Original half morocco, gilt; worn; ex library with the appropriate stamps; inner joints repaired. Apart from these minor defects, a good copy, contents clean. £195
SNC November 1989 Item S468

Copy #145

Quarter leather; contents very fine, binding fine.
(Est. \$400.00) *Realized \$400.00*
Davissons LTD. Actn. #5 July 25, 1995 Lot 519

Copy #151

Original brown quarter morocco, gilt. Top edge gilt, others untrimmed. Extremities rubbed, else a fine copy. (\$150.00)
Realized \$210.00 in "spirited" floor bidding according to the author's annotated copy of. . .
Kolbe Auction Sale V June 9-10, 1979 Lot 186

Copy #156

In the collection of the American Numismatic Society.

Copy #157 - Harry Bass

Brown quarter leather, gilt, t.e.g., rebacked,, original spine laid-on, original gilt printed cloth sides. Fine. Est. \$300.00
Kolbe (Harry Bass Sale) Dec. 12, 1998 Lot 397

Copy #160

Original brown quarter morocco, gilt, top edge gilt, spine worn, front hinge weak, internally fine. Est. (\$150.00)
Kolbe Auction #17 June 9, 1984 Lot 524

Copy #164

A virtually mint copy in the original half brown morocco. £160
SNC September 1974 Item S2426

Copy #180

A fine untrimmed copy in the original half morocco, gilt. £60
SNC May 1974 Item S2044

Copy #184

A good copy in the original half morocco; back gilt; signs of wear; contents clear. With a sepia portrait photograph of the author laid in on the first end paper. £195
SNC May 1991 Item S413

Copy #186

Original half morocco, gilt, a little rubbed. Generally a fine copy. £60
SNC March 1976 Item S3263

Copy #197 - Yoxall

Inscribed to J. H. Yoxall MP. With the Author's compliments, July 22, 1908. Tipped in before the half title page is a one page letter from the author, to Yoxall, dated 25th July, 1908 (17 lines) on National Society of Amalgamated Brass workers and Metal Mechanics' notepaper (the author was General Secretary) ending, ". . . The reason it was consistent for a Trade Union Secretary to make a hobby of this subject was because most of them were truck money manufactured by employers to pay their work people both employed in and outside their factories". Original quarter morocco, gilt, top edge gilt, a little scuffed at the extremities, and a small tear at top of spine, otherwise a fine copy. £275
SNC May 1993 Item S309

Copy #211

Leather back. Fine condition. £7 10s
SNC June 1948 Item B129

Copy #215 - Pocock / Schwer

From the Siegfried Schwer library, ex libris Walter Lewis Pocock, with his bookplate. Number not listed. Original half morocco, a little worn, internally clean, rebacked. Est. £80-120
Glendinings 4 June 1992 Lot 342

Additional appearances:

Kolbe Auction Sale #11 June 12, 1982 Lot 591
Kolbe notes this is copy #215 and that the original spine was retained, also the top edge is gilt. Est. (\$175.00)

SCMB December 1980 Item W1408 £95

Copy #216

A good copy in the original morocco backed boards, a little scuffed. £100

SNC November 1980 Item S9323

Additional appearances: Purchased in November, 1982 by James E. Braunworth from Spink at a cost of £110. The bookplate of James Digby Firth, F. L. S. is on the inside front cover. At the top of the book plate is the signature of F. Pridmore. Laid-in to the volume is a sheet of yellow lined paper, apparently in Pridmore's hand with annotations referring to the Soho Mint. Also laid-in is a reprint of a long review of the book taken from the *Birmingham Daily Post*, March 18th, 1904. This reprint was used by Davis as a kind of prospectus for the work and is found in copies of the book from time to time.

Copy #225

In the collection of the University of Liverpool.

Copy #228

A very nice copy in the original morocco-backed boards, gilt; a little worn; inside upper joint broken. £100

SNC September 1980 Item S8728

Additional appearances:

SNC July / August 1981 Item S10194 £100

Copy #229

Original brown quarter morocco, gilt, top edge gilt, fine. (\$150.00)

Kolbe Auction #26 June 9-11, 1986 Lot 913

Copy #232

Original brown quarter morocco, gilt, top edge gilt, binding a trifle worn. Fine. (\$200.00)

Kolbe / Spink #13 December 10, 1994 Lot 355

The original four page prospectus / advertisement for the work is laid in - a most interesting piece! Currently in the Alan Davisson collection.

Copy #241

Original brown quarter morocco, gilt, a little

scuffed, but an unusually fine copy, contents virtually as new. Inner joints cracked, corners bumped. *Extremely scarce thus.* £275

SNC December 1993 Item S943

With a little room left, let's look at a wonderful example of Davis' 1901 Sotheby Sale Catalogue:

Davis's Personal Copy?

Armorial ex libris Alexander Hannah on the first pastedown, along with the printed label of SIMMONS & WATERS, BOOK AND PRINT DEALERS, 10 Spencer Street, Leamington Spa. Interleaved throughout in ruled sheets. Extra illustrated with over 200 detailed and most attractive hand-drawn illustrations in black ink, heightened in pencil, depicting well over 100 different tokens, many of extreme rarity. Each illustration has been carefully cut to size and mounted on the interleaves. Most of the illustrations appear early in the volume and conform to the tokens being offered on the facing page of text. Following the plates, a number of additional blank leaves have been bound in. Pasted in here are no less than twelve different newspaper clippings pertaining to the sale. Presumably William John Davis' personal copy of the sale catalogue of his token collection. Who else but Davis himself would be concerned about preserving so many contemporary accounts of the sale for posterity? And who else would have access to the collection itself, combined with the prolonged amount of leisure time required to execute the intricate drawings? (*Editor's note: When it comes to token zealotry, one should never overlook Arthur Waters. I wouldn't dismiss the possibility that it was actually Waters who created this wonderful volume.*) Neatly ruled in red with prices and buyer's names written in throughout. Attractively bound in contemporary brown half morocco, gilt marbled sides and end sheets, top page edges gilt, original printed wrappers bound in. Fine. \$1000.00
Kolbe NB #42 (1995) Item 381

Currently in the collection of Wayne Anderson

Some Ship Tokens

By Jim Wahl

The recent A & E cable TV series on Horatio Hornblower prompted me to a cupboard for a book I have, entitled "The Book of Old Ships", by Henry Culver and Gordon Grant, published in 1924. In this book are drawings of old sailing ships from ancient galleys to the clipper ships of the 1850's. I found several pictured ships of the token period in the book that are a reasonable match up to some types depicted on tokens. There are many different types of vessels on tokens of the Conder series, but for this article, I have chosen only a few of those tokens similar to ships illustrated here from the book, and some other relevant material.

Figure 1 is a thirteenth century warship. War at sea at that time was largely the same as a battle on land transferred to a floating platform and pre-dated the use of firearms. The ships of the tokens were of seals used by the cinque ports of Kent. The tokens are Kent 20(not shown), and 31 and 39.

Figure 2 is an East Indiaman characterized by a lack of superstructure above the main deck level. The East Indiamen were heavily armed for defense in their far-off trade destinations. Ordinary merchant vessels were similar, but may have been either armed or unarmed. Many of the unarmed merchant types had gun ports painted on the hull. Hampshire 9, is of this type ship.

Figure 3 is the 74 gun warship, the mainstay of the English and French navies in the 1790's. There were more of this 74 gun ship in the navies at this time than of any other type. Tokens picturing this ship are Kent 11 and Hampshire 69, (and 60 and 79 not shown). Hampshire 71 to 75 and the Liverpool tokens of Lancashire appear similar but do not have enough square rigged sails per mast, possibly a designer's artistic license.

Figure 4 is a frigate, characterized by a raised afterstructure above the main deck level, armed with fewer guns on a single gun deck. Hampshire 43 may be a frigate, and Kent 18, shown here, is a frigate type, but may be slightly smaller than a true frigate.

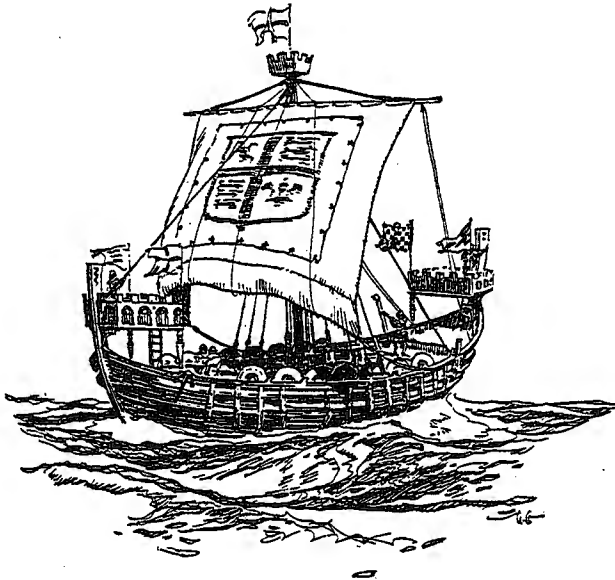
Figure 5 is a very large ship of over 100 guns and multiple gun decks. The ship pictured is the "Victory", originally launched in 1765 and modified later. This was Nelson's ship and the drawing shows it as it was after the modifications. This is the type of ship on Hampshire 29-34, aptly inscribed "The Guard and Glory of Britain". These large ships, had elaborate and ornate structures built up on the stern section as shown in Figure 6. An odd choice of subject matter in the token, Kent 12, is the stern view of the "Royal George", a large ship of 108 guns. R. C. Bell says the token is a view of a successor ship to the earlier one which sank in Portsmouth harbor in 1792 with a loss of 800 lives. The timbers of the hull had rotted, causing the bottom to drop out and capsize the ship.

Because of the continual wars the navy was chronically short handed, which had led to the practice of impressment of seamen into naval service. Press gangs somewhat indiscriminately grabbed seamen ashore and sent them under guard to ports for service. Many of those men were found to be not suitable for service and sent back. When the wars against Napoleon and the French began in 1793, a large organization with an admiral, 80 lieutenants, 47 captains and commanders was formed to recruit or impress seamen. They were heartily detested by the civilian population, and some disorders took place over the practice. Actually, higher numbers of seamen were taken off ships at sea. Britain needed to maintain trade to be able to pay war costs, so merchant ships were allowed to travel outbound without hindrance, but seamen were grabbed when the ships were near port on their return trips. In the 1790's 25 to 29 percent of the naval crew numbers had been impressed into service. Taking of seamen off American ships was one of the causes of the War of 1812 with the United States.

One reason for the chronic shortage of manpower was undoubtedly the abysmally low pay of able seamen. They received 24 shillings per lunar month, which works out to only 10 pence per day. Merchant seamen base pay was 12 pence per day, but when war broke out in 1793, rapidly went to 30 pence per day. In an article I wrote in the Token Newsletter of March 15, 1998, I had deduced that a land person at the edge of the poverty level had an income of 36 pence per day.

The press gang practice is the subject of one of the Spence token dies, as in Middlesex 725-739, (not shown), satirically inscribed "British Liberty Displayed".

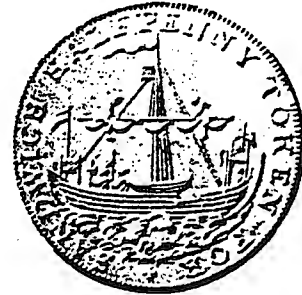
Figure 1



A THIRTEENTH CENTURY ENGLISH
WARSHIP

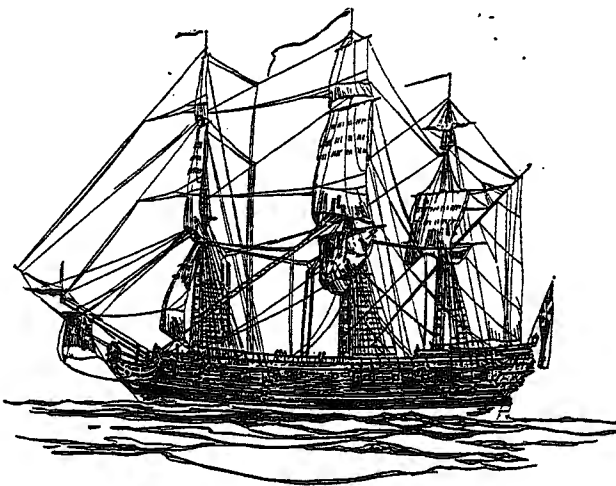


Kent 31



Kent 39

Figure 2

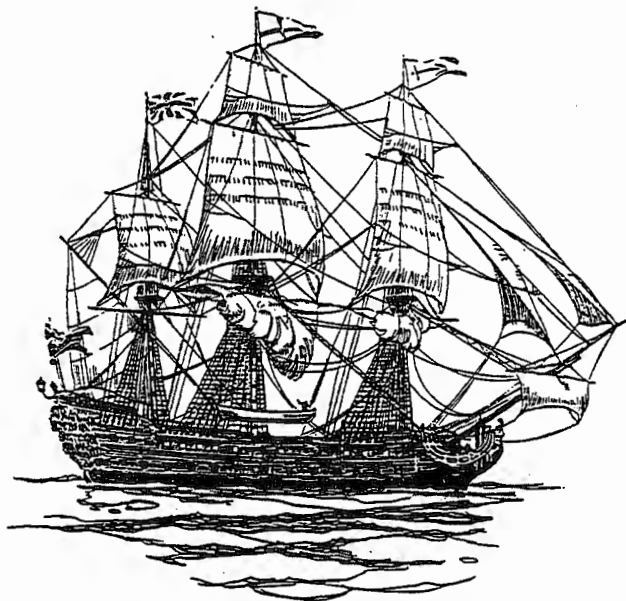


AN EAST INDIAMAN OF 1750



Hampshire 9

Figure 3



AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY SEVENTY-FOUR
GUN SHIP

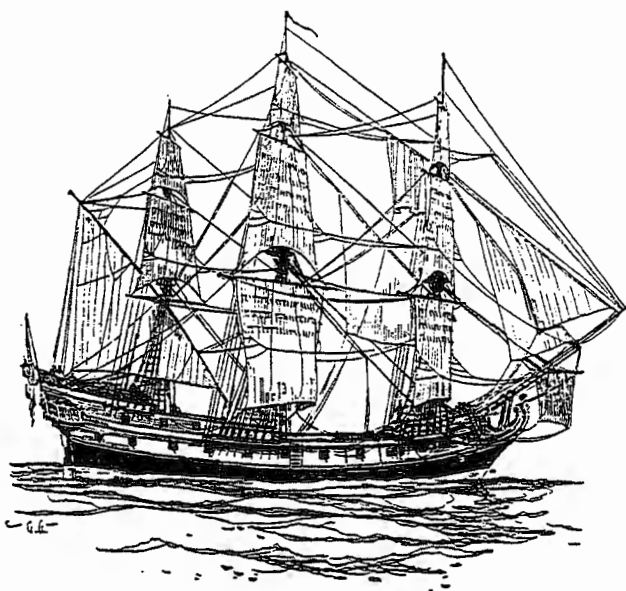


Kent 11



Hampshire 69

Figure 4

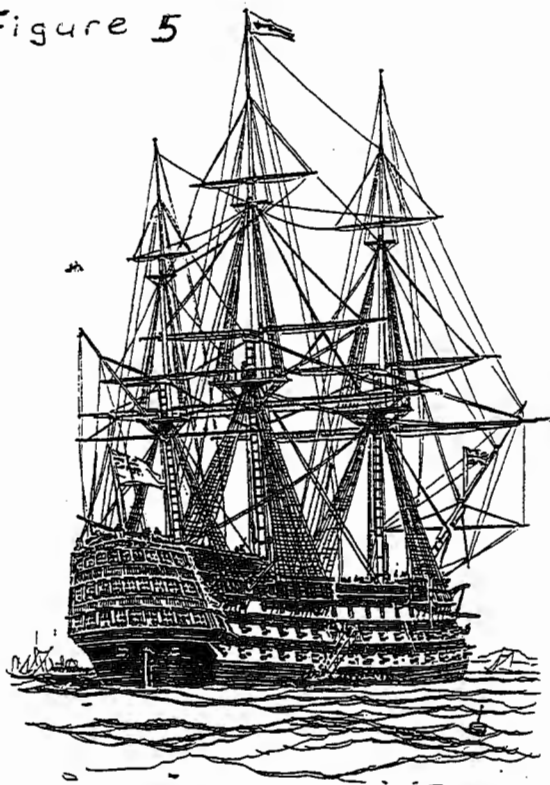


AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FRIGATE



Kent 18

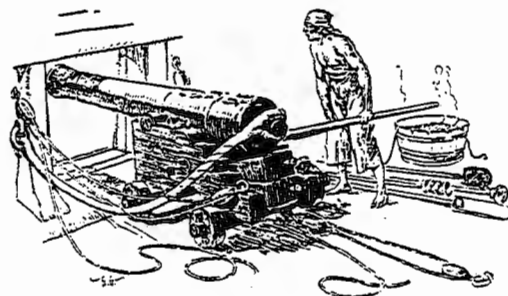
Figure 5



A CAPITAL SHIP OF 1820

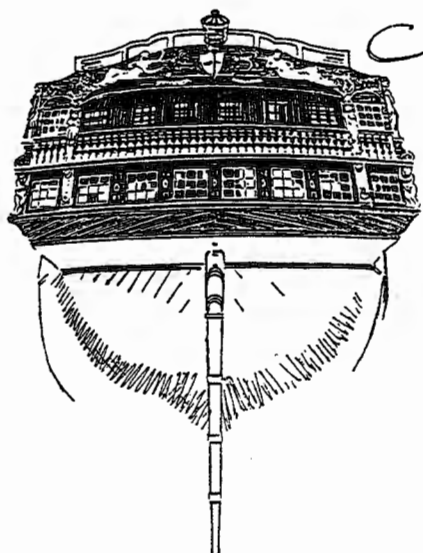


Hampshire 29



A 32 POUNDER
with its tackle and equipment

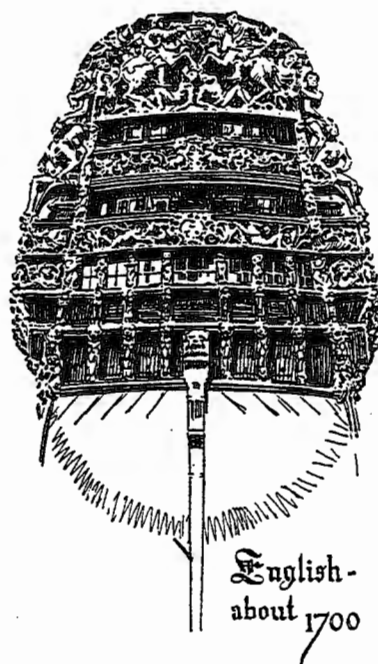
Figure 6



ENGLISH
about 1790



Kent 12



English-
about 1700

MEMBERSHIP LOCUS REPORT

<i>Alabama</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Alaska</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Mississippi</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Missouri</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Arkansas</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Nebraska</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Australia</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Nevada</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>California</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>New Hampshire</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Canada</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>New Jersey</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Colorado</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>New York</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Connecticut</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>North Carolina</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>England</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Scotland</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Oklahoma</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Wales</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Oregon</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Florida</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Pennsylvania</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Hawaii</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Saudi Arabia</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Idaho</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Tennessee</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Illinois</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>Texas</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Indiana</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Vermont</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Iowa</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Virginia</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Kansas</i>	<i>1</i>		
<i>Kentucky</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Washington</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Maine</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Washington, DC</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Maryland</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>West Virginia</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Massachusetts</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Michigan</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>(Total United Kingdom =</i>	<i>31 see above).</i>

TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVE MEMBERS, 243

NEW MEMBERS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CITY & STATE</u>
<i>325</i>	<i>Herb Corley</i>	<i>Santa Rosa, CA</i>
<i>326</i>	<i>John J. Harrington, Jr.</i>	<i>Maplewood, NJ</i>
<i>327</i>	<i>J. Markham</i>	<i>Berkshire, UK</i>
<i>328</i>	<i>Michael Fedder</i>	<i>Johnson City, TN</i>
<i>329</i>	<i>Red Henry</i>	<i>Winchester, VA</i>
<i>330</i>	<i>Harold Gerber</i>	<i>LaFayette, IN</i>
<i>331</i>	<i>Michael Howard</i>	<i>Southfield, MI</i>

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NORTHUMBERLAND 7

SUSSEX HORSHAM 33

WILTSHIRE SALISBURY 18

WORCESTERSHIRE KIDDERMINSTER 31

Please send e-mails with details on any of the above to me at:

doftonpj@hotmail.com or fax to 966-3-673-3815 attention Paul Dofton.

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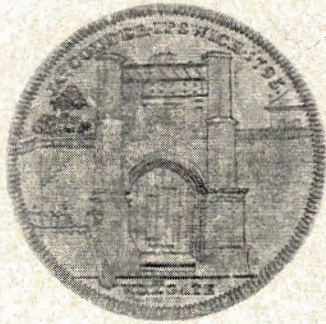


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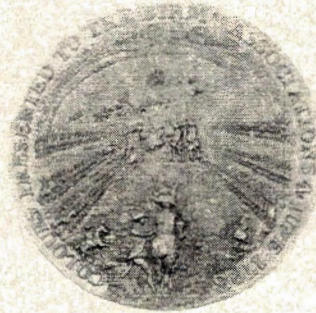
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